

Dear families,

Halloween will look different at Douglass this year, and not just because of construction. First and foremost, we will have our Halloween events on Friday, October 28. I'm sure you can appreciate that finishing the week with parties is preferable to beginning the week with parties!

The costume parade will begin at 1:15 outside the first grade classrooms (weather-permitting – we'll relocate inside in the event of rain or snow). The parade route will be slightly different this year due to construction. We parade through the school, picking up one classroom at a time, walking through the gym twice where parents can witness the hundreds of creative costumes on display.

One costume note – please remember that any pretend or real weapon should be left at home and not brought to school for Halloween. This includes but is not limited to guns, knives, swords, martial-arts or other items that aren't appropriate for school. Also, Kindergartners will participate in this Halloween parade, so I'd appreciate it if blood and gore were kept to a minimum in costumes. Parties begin after the parade, at about 1:45 or so.

While we hope that you will consider healthy treats to Halloween parties, I know that there will be some sugary snacks there. That, added to trick-or-treat candy on Halloween night might give you some pause. How about collecting that excess candy and sending it to our troops overseas? Look in this newsletter for details on a worthy cause.

I anticipate parking challenges next Friday, and we will need to make sure that the bus lanes in the north parking lot are cleared. We'll have cones out there, but please remember that we need a clear pathway for buses to exit. Consider carpooling and putting one less car in the parking lot!

I'm sure you've received your mail-in ballot for this fall's important election. I encourage you to learn more about Proposition 103, which our PTO discussed in an email earlier this month. Please vote knowing how schools will be impacted, and get that ballot in before Tuesday, November 1 – the day after Halloween!

Finally, please drop by the two lost-and-found locations on either side of the gym to retrieve missing jackets and lunch items. We have limited space for these items this year, and will be donating items to charity sooner. If you know you have coats that have gotten too small, we have a coat drive collection box in our main office area.

Thank you all! Enjoy these beautiful autumn days.

Your principal,

Jon Wolfer